OPINION 1067

SUPPRESSION OF *DELPHINUS PERNETTENSIS* DE BLAINVILLE, 1817 AND *DELPHINUS PERNETTYI* DESMAREST, 1820 (CETACEA)

RULING (1) The following specific names are hereby suppressed under the plenary powers for the purposes of the Law of Priority but not for those of the Law of Homonymy:

(a) *pernettensis* de Blainville, 1817, as published in the binomen *Delphinus pernettensis;*

(b) *pernettyi* Desmarest, 1820, as published in the binomen *Delphinus pernettyi.*

(2) The specific names suppressed under the plenary powers in (1) (a) and (b) above are hereby placed on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology with the Name Numbers 1016 and 1017 respectively.

HISTORY OF THE CASE Z.N.(S.) 1974

An application for the suppression of the specific names *pernettensis*, *Delphinus*, de Blainville, 1817, and *pernettyi*, *Delphinus*, Desmarest, 1820, was received on 3 June 1971. It consisted of a separate of a paper published on 28 May 1971 in *Beaufortia* vol. 19 (244): 21-25. The Director of the Institute of Taxonomic Zoology, University of Amsterdam, and the Board of Editors of *Beaufortia* kindly gave permission for the paper to be republished in the *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* It was accordingly sent to the printer, with a note of introduction, on 14 January 1974 and published on 31 July 1974 in *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* vol. 31: 44-48. Public notice of the possible use of the plenary powers in the case was given in the same part of the *Bulletin* as well as to the prescribed serials (Constitution Art. 12b; *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 31: 97) and to mammalogical serials. No comment was received.

DECISION OF THE COMMISSION

On 10 February 1976 the members of the Commission were invited to vote under the Three-Month Rule on Voting Paper (76) 2 for or against the proposals set out on p. 47 of *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* vol. 31. At the close of the Voting Period on 10 May 1976 the state of the voting was as follows:

Affirmative votes — fourteen (14) received in the following order: Melville, Holthuis, Mayr, Lemche, Eisenmann, Vokes, Willink, Tortonese, Corliss, Rohdendorf, Habe, Bayer, Nye, Ride

Negative votes — five (5): Sabrosky, Mroczkowski, Heppell, Bernardi, Dupuis

Late affirmative votes: Alvarado, Brinck, Kraus

Leave of Absence: Binder

Voting Papers not returned: Erben, Simpson, Starobogatov.

The following comments were sent in by members of the Commission with their Voting Papers:

Sabrosky: I am opposed to actions by the Commission on *nomina dubia*. The author's careful checking of the type-locality as the Cape Verde Islands removes the threat to *Stenella plagiodon*. Let *pernettensis* and *pernettyi* rest in peace.

Nye: Although I am usually opposed to the suppression of subjective synonyms, this is a case of a *nomen dubium* in a well-worked group and has my support.

Bernardi: Je suis d'accord qu'un *nomen dubium* mérite d'être rejeté et qu'il ne faut pas se livrer à des "intellectual games" sur un *nomen dubium*. Je vote cependant contre parce qu'on ne voit pas dans le texte de van Bree le minimum d'effort tout de même souhaitable pour tenter de déterminer à quelle espèce appartient *pernettensis:* 1° puisqu'il ne s'agit pas de *Stenella plagiodon* absent des îles du Cap Vert j'aimerai savoir avec quelles "several species" il peut être confondu — cela n'est pas abordé; 2° j'aimerai qu'il soit clairement précisé que la figure de Pernetty n'est pas utilisable pour déterminer *pernettensis*. Or, cette figure n'est pas discutée.

Dr. van Bree was twice written to, in May and July 1976, with an invitation to reply to these comments, but he did not answer. It was accordingly decided to issue an Opinion in the terms of the clear majority vote of the Commission, without further delay.

ORIGINAL REFERENCES

The following are the original references for the names placed on an Official Index by the Ruling given in the present Opinion:

pernettensis, Delphinus, de Blainville, 1817, *Nouv. Dict. Hist. nat.* vol.9: 154

pernettyi, Delphinus, Desmarest, 1820, *Mammalogie, ou description des espèces de mammifères.* (Agasse), Paris : 513.

CERTIFICATE

I certify that the votes cast on Voting Paper (76) 2 were cast as set out above, that the proposals there set forth have been duly adopted under the plenary powers, and that the decision so taken, being the decision of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, is truly recorded in the present Opinion No. 1067.

R.V. MELVILLE
Secretary
International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
London
16 September 1976